

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 have been examined. Claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3 and 10-11 contain allowable subject matter.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,549,842 to Hac et al. ("Hac").

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 1 recites a delay means for delaying a specific signal on a predetermined unitary time basis. Applicant submits that the claimed signal delay is important in order for the system to be compatible with innumerable vehicle types, since delay times for input information differ with each vehicle type.

In the April 25, 2006 Amendment, Applicant submitted that the only "delay" disclosed in column 17 of *Hac* is that between the yaw rate and steering angle, which is an effect of the normal delay between directing a vehicle to turn by the steering wheel, and the car actually turning. This "delay" is not specifically provided by a "delay means" similar to the invention, but is only a normal effect of *Hac*'s system.

In response to the above, the Examiner now refers to column 20, lines 15-44 of *Hac* as disclosing the claimed delay means. As set forth, a time period Δt corresponds to a time delay

with which the rear wheels 16, 18 reach the surface traveled by the front wheels 12, 14. The rear wheels are disclosed as traveling over the same path as the front wheels with a "speed dependent time delay" (col. 20, lines 21-23). Applicant assumes that the Examiner maintains that the time delay Δt of Hac corresponds to the claimed delay means. However, in claim 1, a specific signal is delayed on a "predetermined unitary time basis." The cited portion of Hac merely teaches an ever-changing time delay that is speed dependent. Thus, the delay time is not a predetermined unitary time. In addition, as set forth in claim 1, the delay means delays the "specific signal." In regard to the claimed selection of the specific signal, the Examiner refers to columns 17 and 18 of Hac as disclosing the features. However, the Examiner has not specifically indicated where the "specific signal" is shown or how such signal correlates with the alleged delay means of column 20 of Hac.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference.

B. Claims 4-8

Since claims 4-8 are dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Also, Applicant submits that Hac fails to teach or suggest the features recited in claims 4-8. Since the Examiner has not indicated where Hac allegedly discloses the claimed features,

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide such information if the rejections are to be maintained.

C. Claim 9

Since claim 9 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 9 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

D. Claims 12-16

Since claims 12-16 are dependent upon claim 9, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Also, Applicant submits that Hac fails to teach or suggest the features recited in claims 12-16. Since the Examiner has not indicated where Hac allegedly discloses the claimed features, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide such information if the rejections are to be maintained.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

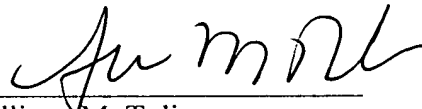
As set forth above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 contain allowable subject matter.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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